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— *The Truth Shall Make You Free* —

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PROSPERITY FOR ALL BELIZEANS

I am satisfied that we finish 2025 in significantly better shape than we started. That achievement alone – that collectively, we are better off today than 12 months ago – sets us apart, as a nation and a people…Most compelling, in this narrative of prosperity, is the soaring pride, the hope, and the resilience of Belizeans, as we contrast the incredible stability and security we continue to enjoy in an otherwise disorderly and rapidly changing world…all four hundred thousand of us, are in fact shareholders in the larger, more meaningful enterprise of nationhood. – **PM's New Year's Message, Pg. 7**

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Support for Taiwan | Trade License Fees For Rural Areas Postponed ■ Inside

"Best wishes for a New Year 2026 filled with the treasures of health, peace & success" – PM Briceño

PROSPERITY FOR ALL BELIZEANS

With 3.7 Gross Domestic Product growth and 0.9 per cent inflation and 1.9 per cent unemployment, it is easy to qualify Belize's 2025 a remarkable feat. These numbers keep Belize at the forefront of global economic discussion not unlike the past years especially after the Blue Bond success. Governing in Belize have never been more transparent and more complex than today yet Prime Minister John Briceño and team can claim consistent, and unceasing success whilst never hoisting mission accomplished banners. The PUP government of today and moving into 2026, is a mature and people-centric organization that cherishes sustainable policies while not being shy to step out and make the life-changing decisions the Belizean people need and expect from their government.

Let us take two examples, education and energy which coincidentally are the same two that the Millennium Challenge Corporation picked as being the two sectors of Belize that require aid under the scope of their programme. Education has truly undergone the type of transformation that benefits the poor of Belize while improving the quality of the dispensation of learning in the jewel. Children in the thousands are being fed with meals which increase their capacity to learn. As the economy improved we can expect this need to subside over time but there is no relenting in this program called the Healthy Start. Hundreds of needy students are aided financially and given scholarships directly by the government and by its statutory bodies. This is in addition to the twenty-three secondary schools, inclusive of government and grant-aided, who are under essentially free education as tuition, meals, uniform, devices, travel, books and other needs are taken care of for all the students at these institutions. Government has upped funding of ALL schools where a 100 per cent of salaries for teachers and staff is paid. This also goes along with all teachers being a 100 per cent under the pension scheme and not 70-30 for some. Through this financial change the new Competency Learning shifted education to prepare students for the workplace of today.

In the realm of Energy, Belize has signed and is well underway to Energy independence. Solar farms in strategic areas of Belize are being built as we move into 2026. These farms which will be accompanied by batteries will become Belize's way out of dependence on Mexican power especially at peak times. Being a responsible government means that the Mexican grid will always be linked to us but dependence would be far less. Belizeans have joined the sustainable energy in droves. Solar panels can be seen everywhere in homes, neighbourhoods, rooftops and your government is not behind. The Briceño administration grasped at the opportunity to own all three of our main Hydrodams on the Macal. Without missing a beat, the people of Belize have been invited to own shares of this patrimony and they have responded. Early indications are that applications have poured in. So as light, like internet and water, is taken to every corner of Belize, the government is in constant search for the next Mega Watt.

Today's world is unforgiving. The oceans of world policy today have Belize's future literally in its legal hands. We are confident that the best minds are representing us at the International Court of Justice. This coming year 2026, we have the realistic expectation of a Belize that will be even more independent as it tacks itself through the global political ocean breezes and currents. Thanks God, we have very competent sailors to guide and navigate Belize through. These leaders are PM John Briceño and a PUP government of, for and by the people.

A happy and safe New Year 2026 to all.

MoU: Ministry of Agriculture & CARDI

Cooperation In Research In Various Commodities

December 18, 2025 – A 10-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and New Growth Industries and the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute, CARDI.

The MoU was signed today by Minister of Agriculture, Food Security and New Growth Industries Hon. Rodwell Ferguson and CARDI Country Representative in Belize, Omaira Avila Rostant at the Ministry's National Show Grounds headquarters.

The agreement spans cooperation in research in various commodities, such as coconuts, that CARDI undertakes in Belize.

CARDI has had a presence in Belize since 1975, and has played a vital role in research, development and innovation in various crops. CARDI facilitates technology transfer and applies appropriate technologies to farmers and agribusinesses, while it also plays a key role in the region's food security by leading in the "25% by 2025" CARICOM initiative, which aims to reduce the region's food import bill by 25% by the year 2025.

CARDI is a regional body with headquarters in Trinidad and Tobago. The main objectives of the Institute are to provide for the research and development needs of the agriculture of the Region as identified in national plans and policies; to provide an appropriate research and development service to the agricultural sector of Member States; to provide and extend the application of new technologies in production, processing, storage and distribution of agricultural products of Member States; to pursue for specified periods long-term research in pertinent areas; and to provide for the co-ordination and integration of the research and development efforts of its 14 Member States where this is possible and desirable.

CARDI is funded by member states who provide the core budget according to an agreed formula, while funding for projects came from donor agencies. The present CARDI Executive Director is Ansari Hosein. (release)

The above is just another move forward in further solidifying Belize's self-sufficiency in being able to feed itself. PlanBelize 2.0 nevertheless has a greater goal of moving all its people out of poverty.

GOB and Stakeholders Unite to Advance Northern Sugar Industry

December 19, 2025 - Dr. Hon. Osmond Martinez, Minister of State in the Ministry of Economic Transformation, met with key stakeholders of the northern sugar industry at the Sugar Industry Control Board (SICB) Conference Room on Wednesday, December 17, 2025, in Buena Vista, Corozal, to discuss critical issues and align efforts in support of Belize's sugarcane sector. The meeting brought together representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and New Growth Industries; the Sugar In-

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The Belize Times

serving Belize since 1957 as the longest continuous newspaper.

Founder: Rt. Hon. George Cadle Price, People's United Party Leader Emeritus

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EDITORIAL

IN CELEBRATION, THE WORK CONTINUES

In vintage Prime Minister John Briceño style, 2025 wraps up, you blink, and the work continues in 2026. The seamless transition from celebrating a year of triumphs to another full of triumphant expectations has been normalised by the planBelize phenomenon of hard work. The past twelve months brought development that raised the bar another notch. In fact, the Belizean people who are experiencing low inflation, low unemployment, and low crime are expecting even better. People are still looking for a lower cost of living while improving the quality of life. People want more and better employment as more people join the workforce than ever before. Everyone wants even a lower crime rate. Such are the social dynamics of Belizeans. PM Briceño basks in that challenge. PM Briceño and team are always at a planning seminar, consistently groundbreaking and innovating, even as they are inaugurating, opening, launching, and celebrating. It is nonstop progress, and the people of Belize have bought into the notion that last year is gone; next year, they expect more.

In 2025, the people of Belize reaffirmed that the PUP and planBelize 2.0 were what they wanted in their lives. Why go back to the dark days of the UDP when everybody could be seen as winning in some form or another? Everybody fih win was not meant to be extreme wealth; it was meant to be an ongoing betterment of lives via access to what everyone has a right to: Education, Jobs, Land, Housing and Health in the most affordable fashion. In 2025, people felt those rights were on the right track, and they spoke with their ballots in both the General and Village elections.

Education has truly undergone a transformation that benefits Belize's poor while improving the quality of learning in the jewel. Hundreds of needy students are financially aided and awarded scholarships directly by the government and its statutory bodies. This is in addition to the twenty-three secondary schools, including government- and grant-aided schools, which offer essentially free education, as tuition, meals, uniforms, devices, travel, books, and other needs are also covered for all students at these institutions. The government has increased funding for ALL schools where 100 per cent of teachers' and staff salaries are paid. This aligns with all teachers being 100 per cent covered under the pension scheme. Competency-based learning has shifted education to prepare students for today's workplace.

In the realm of Energy, Belize has signed and is well underway to Energy independence. Solar farms are being built in strategic areas of Belize as we move into 2026. These farms, paired with batteries, will help Belize reduce its dependence on Mexican power, especially during peak hours. Being a responsible government means that the Mexican grid will always be linked to us, but dependence should be negligible. Many Belizeans have joined the sustainable energy in droves. Solar panels can be seen everywhere in homes, neighbourhoods, and on rooftops, and your government is not behind. The Briceño administration itself grasped at the opportunity to own all three of our main Hydrodams on the Macal. Without missing a beat, the people of Belize have been invited to own shares of their patrimony, and they have responded. Early indications are that applications have poured in. So, as light, like internet and water, is brought to every corner of Belize, the government is in constant search of the next megawatt.

In Health, a new Strategy will come into full effect as two new hospitals are well underway. The San Pedro General Hospital and the Belmopan Tertiary Level Hospital aim to improve the lives of thousands of Belizeans through health care. This will add to the entirely free Public hospitals and the National Health Care providers funded by the National Lottery. The people of all municipalities, including Belize City, have a new plan for their major healthcare facilities. There is no stagnant policy in the Ministry of Health and Wellness.

The same can be said for Land and Housing, via the Ministries of Natural Resources and Infrastructure Development and Housing, led by DPM Cordel Hyde and Minister Julius Espat, respectively. These ministries have positively affected each person in this nation. Land and housing recipient testimonials abound, and everyone who drives a vehicle can see the miles and miles of infrastructure being built in a manner more resilient than ever before. Both Ministers, like the Prime Minister, are relentless; one family at a time is being helped, and the work is endless. There is always an upgrade and better service.

All the Ministries have a story of planBelize 2.0 resilience and perseverance. The beginning of a new year is a time to slow down a bit, and before you know it, the acceleration of progress is back on. At the end of January 2026, Belize will get a spanking-new National Assembly Building, still housing the spirit of George Cadle Price and Belizean democracy. The people will continue getting what the PUP knows best: Serve the People. The people await planBelize 3.0 and better in 2026.

A Happy New Year and a Safe Year to All.

en Español

EN CELEBRACIÓN, EL TRABAJO CONTINÚA

Al estilo del primer ministro John Briceño, 2025 llega a su fin, parpadeas y el trabajo continúa en 2026. La transición fluida de celebrar un año de triunfos a otro lleno de expectativas triunfales se ha normalizado gracias al fenómeno planBelice del trabajo duro. Los últimos doce meses trajeron consigo un desarrollo que elevó el listón un poco más. De hecho, los beliceños, que están experimentando una baja inflación, un bajo desempleo y una baja criminalidad, esperan aún más. La gente sigue buscando un menor costo de vida y, al mismo tiempo, mejorar la calidad de vida. La gente quiere más y mejores empleos, ya que cada vez más personas se incorporan a la fuerza laboral. Todo el mundo quiere una delincuencia aún menor. Así es la dinámica social de los beliceños. El primer ministro Briceño disfruta de ese reto. El primer ministro Briceño y su equipo siempre están en un seminario de planificación, innovando constantemente y rompiendo moldes, incluso mientras inauguran, abren, lanzan y celebran. Es un progreso incesante y el pueblo de Belice ha aceptado la idea de que el año pasado ya pasó; el año que viene, esperan más.

En 2025, el pueblo de Belice reafirmó que el PUP y el planBelice 2.0 eran lo que quería en sus vidas. ¿Por qué volver a los días oscuros del UDP cuando todo el mundo podía considerarse ganador de una u otra forma? El «todos ganamos» no significaba riqueza extrema, sino una mejora continua de la vida mediante el acceso a lo que todos tienen derecho: educación, empleo, tierra, vivienda y salud de la forma más asequible. En 2025, la gente sintió que esos derechos iban por buen camino y lo expresó con sus votos tanto en las elecciones generales como en las municipales.

La educación ha experimentado una verdadera transformación que beneficia a los pobres de Belice, al tiempo que mejora la calidad del aprendizaje en la joya. Cientos de estudiantes necesitados reciben ayuda económica y becas directamente del Gobierno y de sus organismos estatutarios. Esto se suma a las veintitrés escuelas secundarias, incluidas las públicas y las subvencionadas, que ofrecen una educación esencialmente gratuita, ya que la matrícula, las comidas, los uniformes, los dispositivos, los desplazamientos, los libros y otras necesidades también están cubiertos para todos los estudiantes de estas instituciones. El Gobierno ha aumentado la financiación de TODAS las escuelas, en las que se paga el 100 % del salario de los profesores y del personal. Esto se ajusta a que todos los profesores estén cubiertos al 100 % por el plan de pensiones. El aprendizaje basado en competencias ha transformado la educación para preparar a los estudiantes para el mundo laboral actual.

En el ámbito energético, Belice ha firmado y está en camino de alcanzar la independencia energética. Se están construyendo parques solares en zonas estratégicas de Belice de cara a 2026. Estos parques, junto con las baterías, ayudarán a Belice a reducir su dependencia de la energía mexicana, especialmente en las horas punta. Ser un gobierno responsable significa que la red mexicana siempre estará conectada a nosotros, pero la dependencia debería ser insignificante. Muchos beliceños se han sumado en masa a la energía sostenible. Se pueden ver paneles solares por todas partes, en casas, barrios y tejados, y su gobierno no se queda atrás. La propia administración de Briceño aprovechó la oportunidad para adquirir las tres principales presas hidroeléctricas del Macal. Sin perder el tiempo, se ha invitado al pueblo de Belice a adquirir acciones de su patrimonio y este ha respondido. Los primeros indicios apuntan a que se han recibido numerosas solicitudes. Así, a medida que la luz, al igual que Internet y el agua, llega a todos los rincones de Belice, el Gobierno busca constantemente el próximo megavatio.

En materia de salud, una nueva estrategia entrará en vigor cuando dos nuevos hospitales estén en pleno funcionamiento. El Hospital General de San Pedro y el Hospital Terciario de Belmopán tienen como objetivo mejorar la vida de miles de beliceños mediante la atención sanitaria. Esto se sumará a los hospitales públicos totalmente gratuitos y a los proveedores de atención sanitaria nacional financiados por la Lotería Nacional. Los habitantes de todos los municipios, incluida la ciudad de Belice, cuentan con un nuevo plan para sus principales centros de salud. No hay políticas estancadas en el Ministerio de Salud y Bienestar.

Lo mismo puede decirse de la tierra y de la vivienda, a través de los Ministerios de Recursos Naturales y Desarrollo de Infraestructuras y Vivienda, dirigidos por el viceprimer ministro Cordel Hyde y el ministro Julius Espat, respectivamente. Estos ministerios han tenido un impacto positivo en cada persona de esta nación. Abundan los testimonios de los beneficiarios de tierras y viviendas, y todos los que conducen un vehículo pueden ver los kilómetros y kilómetros de infraestructura que se están construyendo de una manera más resistente que nunca. Ambos ministros, al igual que el primer ministro, son incansables; se está ayudando a una familia tras otra y el trabajo es interminable. Siempre hay mejoras y mejores servicios.

Todos los ministerios cuentan con una historia de resiliencia y perseverancia en el plan Belice 2.0. El comienzo de un nuevo año es un momento para reducir un poco el ritmo y, antes de que nos demos cuenta, la aceleración del progreso vuelve a ponerse en marcha. A finales de enero de 2026, Belice contará con un nuevo edificio de la Asamblea Nacional que seguirá albergando el espíritu de George Cadle Price y la democracia beliceña. El pueblo seguirá recibiendo lo que el PUP sabe hacer mejor: servir al pueblo. El pueblo espera el planBelice 3.0 y más en 2026.

Un año feliz y seguro para todos.

2025 PLANBELIZE 2.0 YEAR IN REVIEW

Confidence-Optimism-Economic Boom

The past year, as the Prime Minister of Belize, Hon John Briceño, remarked in that New Year's Message 2025 to the citizenry, "has truly been a year (2024) of Belizean triumph". It was a year when the confidence of every Belizean matched their ambitions, and became the launchpad of optimism into 2025. John Briceño's government did not falter, waver, or fail in fulfilling the people's expectations, and this will be highlighted in the 2025 PlanBelize 2.0 Year in Review.

January 12, 2025 - BUILDING ROADS TO PROSPERITY:

Government of Belize inaugurated the Corozal Free Zone Access Road.

January 19, 2025 - Cabinet approved amendments to the Fiscal Incentive Act to include registered cooperatives - Supporting and promoting MSMEs.

January 26, 2025- The currency design was revealed at a ceremony at the Central Bank of Belize.

February 2, 2025 - The Office of the Prime Minister launched the Belize Enterprise Empowerment Project(BEEP) and hosted by BELTRAIDE in the continuing effort to strengthen the support for MSMEs.

February 11, 2025 - Prime Minister, John Briceño announced **that the General Elections** would be held on March 12, 2025.

February 16, 2025 - The People's United Party Convention was held at the Belize Civic Center with the endorsement of the TruBlu leadership and massive support from the PUP supporters.

February 24, 2025 - Nomination Day; Prime Minister: "My promise to you is that I will work

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LOTTERY, GST-FREE, SHARES, AND MORE

DELIVERING FOR THE PEOPLE: A YEAR OF CONTINUED SUCCESS

As Belize closes the chapter on 2025 and steps confidently into 2026, there is a keen sense that this past year has been one of continued success, stability, and meaningful delivery for the people. It was a year marked not only by ambitious policies and major investments, but by tangible improvements felt in households, communities, and workplaces across the country.

For many Belizeans, the most important measure of progress is simple: life feels more manageable than it did twelve months ago. More people are working, wages are rising, and families are better able to meet daily expenses. Government policies aimed at improving purchasing power, expanding social support, and strengthening essential services have contributed to a growing sense of optimism that the country is moving in the right direction.

GST-free weekends

One of the most visible initiatives in 2025 was the GST-free weekends. Those weekends sparked an avalanche of commercial activity nationwide, driving tens of millions of dollars in consumer spending. For the ordinary Belizean man and woman, this meant real savings at the checkout—money that could be redirected toward school supplies, groceries, household items, or small improvements at home. For businesses, especially small and medium enterprises, it translated into increased sales, higher cash flow, and greater confidence to invest and hire. This administration became the first in Belize's history to offer such a wide-ranging tax relief measure directly to consumers.

Shares sale for Hydro Belize Limited

Another major step toward empowering Belizeans economically was the launch of the public share sale for Hydro Belize Limited, the company that owns the three hydropower plants on the Macal River. Within days of the offering, hundreds of Belizeans had already applied to become shareholders. This initiative allows ordinary citizens—not just large investors—to own a stake in a critical national asset. For teachers, public officers, entrepreneurs, and retirees, it represents an opportunity to build wealth and keep profits circulating within the local economy for generations.

Income Tax Threshold Raised, etc.

The year also brought direct financial relief and structural reform. Income tax thresholds were increased to $29,000, putting more money back into workers' pockets. A $54 million write-off for the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital eased longstanding financial burdens, while significant investments continued in healthcare, including new hospitals under construction and the development of a modern central laboratory. For everyday Belizeans, this translates into better access to healthcare, reduced strain on public facilities, and improved diagnostic services closer to home.

Education and social support remained central pillars of government action. Expanded school feeding programs, tuition assistance, and education grants helped ensure that children could attend school fed, focused, and supported, regardless of their family's income level. For parents, particularly in rural communities, this assistance reduced financial pressure and reinforced the idea that education remains a national priority.

Land Distribution

Land distribution and housing initiatives also gained momentum in 2025. Thousands of Belizeans benefitted from access to land for residential purposes, village expansions, and starter homes. For many families, owning a piece of land or moving into a starter home is more than a milestone—it is the foundation for generational stability and economic security. These programs, paired with ongoing infrastructure development, have reshaped both rural and urban landscapes.

Improved Infrastructure

Across Belize, roads, drains, bridges, and public spaces saw unprecedented levels of investment. From cities and towns to some of the most remote villages, improved infra-

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LOTTERY, GST-FREE, SHARES, AND MORE

Continued from page 4

structure has enhanced safety, reduced flooding, shortened travel times, and made it easier for farmers, vendors, and small businesses to bring goods to market. Rural Belize has seen historic levels of attention, with expanded access to clean water, healthcare services, classrooms, technology, and land for growth.

Importantly, these rural advances have not come at the expense of urban development. Through public sector investments and partnerships with private investors, city-based workers and businesses also benefitted from steady quarter-to-quarter growth. Construction, tourism, agriculture, and emerging industries experienced expansion, contributing to an overall agriculture boom and the creation of new employment opportunities.

Security and Governance

Security and governance reforms also advanced. New police stations are under construction, strengthening law enforcement presence and community safety. Meanwhile, government services are becoming more accessible and efficient through digital transformation. Civil Registration and Vital Statistics services are moving online, Boledo has gone digital, and more government processes are now accessible without long lines or repeated visits. For the average Belizean, this means less time away from work, fewer bureaucratic hurdles, and greater transparency.

On the investment front, Belize reached a historic milestone with the 14th Belize Investment Summit in 2025, which yielded an estimated $1.5 billion in investment commitments. Among the standout projects were Belize's first-ever sugar refinery and the Port of Belize Cruise and Cargo Project. These initiatives promise long-term job creation, increased exports, and stronger foreign exchange earnings—benefits that will ripple throughout the economy.

People's United Party marked its 75th anniversary

The year was also one of reflection and pride, as the People's United Party marked its 75th anniversary under the theme "Serving the People, Continuing the Revolution." The milestone served as a reminder of Belize's journey as a nation and the enduring focus on people-centered development.

More compelling than any statistic is the mood on the ground. In conversations with workers, farmers, entrepreneurs, and families, there is a noticeable sense of hope and resilience. In a world marked by uncertainty and instability, Belize continues to enjoy relative security, social cohesion, and economic momentum.

As Belize marches into 2026, the challenge will be to protect and build upon these gains. For the ordinary Belizean man and woman, the promise is clear: continued opportunity, shared prosperity, and a future rooted in stability, pride, and respect for one another. This is the true measure of a year that delivered for the people.

HAPPY NEW YEAR BELIZE!

GOB and Stakeholders Unite to Advance Northern Sugar Industry

Continued from page 2

dustry Control Board (SICB); the Sugar Industry Research and Development Institute (SIRDI); Belize Sugar Industries/ASR (BSI/ASR); the Sugar Cane Production Committee (SCPC); the Northern Sugar Cane Growers Association (NSCGA); the Progressive Sugar Cane Producers Association (PSCPA); the Belize Sugar Cane Farmers Association (BSCFA); the Corozal Sugar Cane Producers Association (CSCPA); the Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project (CRESAP); and the Belize Social Investment Fund. In attendance supporting Minister Martinez was Dr. Marcelino Avila, Senior Policy Advisor to the Prime Minister.

In his address, Dr. Hon. Martinez emphasized the importance of developing and adopting a common vision for the sugar industry so that each stakeholder can work in a coordinated manner toward shared goals. He highlighted that only through unity of purpose, transparency, and continuous dialogue can the industry overcome current challenges and take new opportunities for growth and resilience.

The agenda addressed a wide range of strategic matters, including harvesting and delivery system readiness, implementation of the HD strategy, pre-harvest sampling and cane testing arrangements, and updates on sugar roads and other infrastructure support. Stakeholders also reviewed the strategic plans of the farmers' associations, ongoing factory updates, and the alignment of key projects such as CRESAP and BACSuF to strengthen climate resilience, improve cane quality, and enhance farm productivity.

Partners reaffirmed their commitment to improving access to financing and technical support for farmers, including streamlining matching-grant procedures under CRESAP and coordinating with financial institutions.

Bringing all parties together in one forum signaled the collective seriousness and commitment to continue supporting and modernizing the sugar industry in northern Belize. Stakeholders agreed on next steps, responsibilities, and follow-up mechanisms to ensure that programmes and activities are better coordinated, more farmer-focused, and fully aligned with the shared vision of a resilient, competitive, and sustainable sugarcane sector. (release)

NOTICE

GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE TREASURY BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER 1/2026

Tenders are invited for an issue of Government of Belize Treasury Bills. The amount of the issue will be $83,200,000.00.

The Bills will be issued in electronic form only evidenced by an electronic book entry in the Central Securities Depository (CSD) of the Central Bank of Belize in multiples of $200 and will be repayable at par 91 days after issue. They will be issued on Friday, 2 January 2026 and will be redeemed on Friday 3 April 2026.

Each tender must be for $200 or a multiple of $200. Bid yields must be submitted to five decimal places.

Members of the public who wish to participate in the auction must submit their bid to the Central Bank of Belize electronically to bids@centralbank.org.bz or at the designated drop off box no later than 12:00 noon on Wednesday, 31 December 2025.

The auction in the CSD will be opened from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm on Friday 2 January 2026.

Successful bidders should arrange to settle via the Automated Payment & Securities Settlement System of Belize (APSSS).

Bank: Central Bank of Belize
Account: GLICORP0402627

The Government of Belize reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all tenders in whole or in part.

CENTRAL BANK OF BELIZE

Notices are placed on Central Bank of Belize Website (www.centralbank.org.bz)

11 December 2025

Government of Belize

PREQUALIFICATION OF BIDDERS

Construction of the Tertiary Hospital in the Belmopan Area Project

Institution: Ministry of Finance, Government of Belize
Country: BELIZE
Project: The Tertiary Hospital in the Belmopan Area Project
Process ID: RFB/SFD/2/795/01
Deadline: **January 19th, 2026; at 10:00 a.m. (Local Belize Time)**

The Government of Belize has received loan financing from the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD) for the Construction of the Tertiary Hospital in the Belmopan Area Project.

The Ministry of Finance, through its Central Executing Unit, intends to allocate a portion of the Project's proceeds to procure the services of a construction company to undertake the "Construction of the Tertiary Hospital in the Belmopan Area Project, Belize" and invites eligible and qualified bidders to submit the sealed "prequalification exercise" for these works.

The Ministry of Finance invites interested bidders to access the full version of this **Prequalification of Bidders Notice** online at https://procurement.gov.bz/opportunities/ or by scanning the QR code below, and to submit the prequalification exercise in accordance with the instructions provided in the full version.

Procurement Specialist
Ministry of Finance
2nd Floor, Sir Edney Cain Building, Belmopan
Tel: 501-822-4106
procurement@ceu.mof.gov.bz

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT)

MONITORING & EVALUATION OFFICER

Institution: Ministry of Finance
Country: Belize
Project: Trade and Investment Facilitation Program for Belize
Process ID: BL-L1040 -P00040
Duration: Two (2) years
Duty Station: Central Executing Unit, Ministry of Finance, Belmopan (In Office)
Deadline: **January 16, 2026; 9:30 a.m. (Local Belize Time) (EXTENSION)**

The Government of Belize (GOB) has received loan financing from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for the execution of the Project**: "**Trade and Investment Facilitation Program for Belize".

The Ministry of Finance, through its Central Executing Unit, intends to allocate a portion of the project's proceeds to engage the contractual services of a **"Monitoring & Evaluation Officer".**

The Ministry of Finance invites individuals to access the full version of this Request for Application and Terms of Reference (TOR) at https://procurement.gov.bz/mof-trade-and-investment-facilitation-program-for-belize-monitoring-evaluation-officer-individual-consultant-0030-mof-2025-2/ and to submit application packages in accordance with the instructions provided in the full version.

ATTN:
Sandeep Betancourt
Procurement Specialist
Ministry of Finance
2nd Floor, Sir Edney Cain Building, Belmopan
Tel: 501-822-4106
procurement@ceu.mof.gov.bz

Ref: Individual Consultancy – "Monitoring & Evaluation Officer" – Name of consultant.

REQUEST FOR BIDS (RFB) (WORKS)

Design and Build for Corozal Town Public Spaces and Facilities

Institution: Ministry of Finance
Country: Belize, Central America
Project: Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development Program
Process ID: BL-L1046-P00011
Deadline: **January 16, 2026; 10:00 a.m. (Belize Time) (EXTENSION)**

The Government of Belize has received loan financing from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for the implementation of the Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development Program.

The Ministry of Finance, through its Central Executing Unit, intends to allocate a portion of the Program's proceeds to procure the services of a Company for the **"Design and Build for Corozal Town (Mother's Park Upgrading, Children's Park Upgrading, Basketball Court and Amphitheatre Area Enhancement, Seaside Pathway Construction, Fisherman's Pier Upgrading, Municipal Pier Upgrading)".**

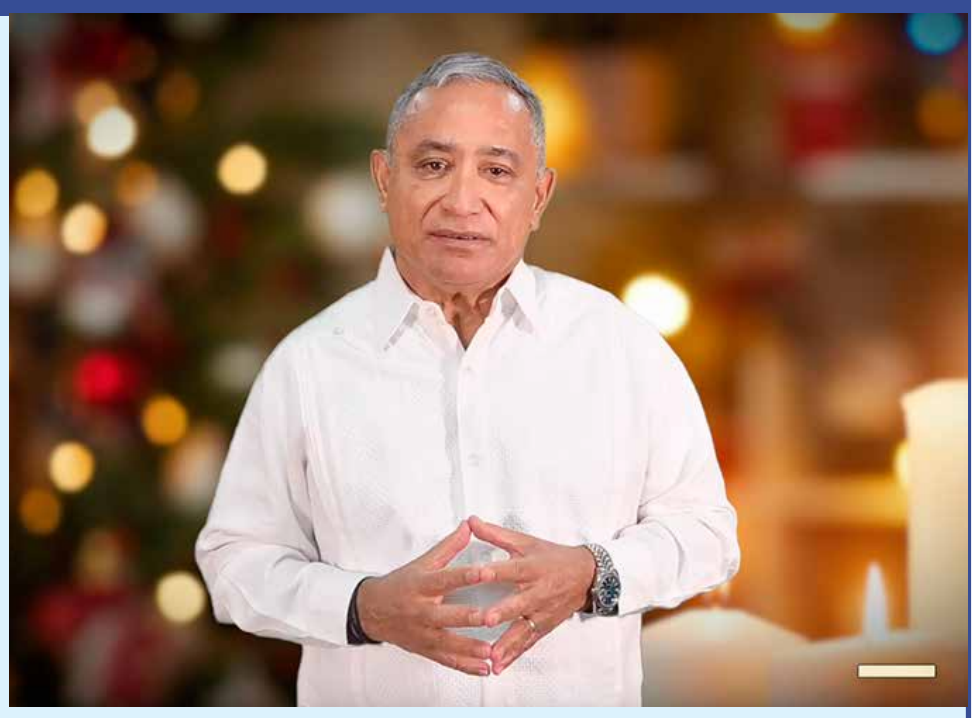
The Ministry of Finance invites interested companies to access the full version of this RFB online at https://procurement.gov.bz/mof-design-and-build-for-corozal-town-public-spaces-and-facilities-works-0031-mof2025/ and to submit their Bid in accordance with the instructions provided in the full version.

ATTN:
Sandeep Betancourt
Procurement Specialist
Ministry of Finance
2nd Floor, Sir Edney Cain Building, Belmopan
Tel: 501-822-4106
procurement@ceu.mof.gov.bz

CARTOON

PRIME MINISTER JOHN BRICEÑO

New Year 2026 Address



My fellow Belizeans,

On behalf of Cabinet members and all public officers, I greet you and your family as our nation marks the close of this year and the start of 2026. For sure, the months have flown by, and perhaps too few of us remember the passionate resolutions that energised our outlook at the beginning of 2025. In the case of Government, our resolutions are writ large in the form manifesto promises to the people, reviewed constantly in the course of our daily work and put before us repeatedly by constituents and the media.

We can't afford to forget.

And as I look back across the 12 months of the ending year, I am satisfied that we finish 2025 in significantly better shape than we started. That achievement alone – that collectively, we are better off today than 12 months ago – sets us apart, as a nation and a people. Now, what reasons excite my confidence that we are better off? These reasons stretch from the foundational to the stars.

At the foundation, the pillars of our society are rock solid: Belizeans are working in higher numbers than ever, earning liveable and rising wages, rearing their families in generally safer communities, benefitting from stronger schooling and health care systems and gathering for themselves a greater share of the nation's bountiful wealth. What, is especially pleasing, is the evident advances being achieved for that half of our population living in the rural areas of our country; those whose streets, roads, and drains have been vastly improved, and whose access to clean water, to classrooms and technology, to health care and to lands for village expansions have all received unprecedented attention and resources from this Government. And betterment for our rural citizens has not come at the expense of those making their lives in our Cities and Towns.

Whether by way of direct, public sector capital investments, or partnerships with private investors who have been incentivised to unleash their enterprises in Belize, or standalone private sector initiatives, it is evident that urban workers and businesses have benefitted from our quarter-to-quarter, year-to-year, expansion and growth.

I will not recite on this occasion the many data points that prove our progress in 2025. More compelling than any employment number or GDP statistic is the optimism I encounter in my frequent engagements with Belizean workers and Belizean entrepreneurs alike. Most compelling, in this narrative of prosperity, is the soaring pride, the hope, and the resilience of Belizeans, as we contrast the incredible stability and security we continue to enjoy in an otherwise disorderly and rapidly changing world.

Two Government initiatives stand tall, as the year closes. First, the avalanche of commercial activity across the country motivated by the GST-free weekends offered by Government. This program spurs tens of millions in consumer spending within the economy, benefitting retail customers and business outlets and keeping our dollars here at home, not in Chetumal or Melchor. This is the first Administration ever to offer this massive tax benefit to the people. And second, the recent launch of the sale of shares in the recently acquired Hydro Belize Limited, the company that owns the three hydro power plants located on the Macal River in the Cayo District. In just the first few days of the offering, hundreds of Belizeans have already applied to become shareholders in the company. Again, this bold step by Government – first the acquisition and now the share sale - will keep profits circulating in the local economy for generations to come.

As Belizeans, all four hundred thousand of us, are in fact shareholders in the larger, more meaningful enterprise of nationhood. Marching into 2026, let us be especially proud and protective, of our most valuable assets like love of country and respect for each other. May we cherish even more in 2026 our diversity, whether ethnic, cultural, religious or political. And let us always trumpet our sacred democracy, with its freedom to talk, to move, to report, to vote, to own and to pursue our best humanity.

Queridos compatriotas beliceños,

Al dar la bienvenida al Año Nuevo, quisiera expresar mi más sincero agradecimiento por la fuerza y el espíritu de unidad que hemos mostrado como nación. Que este nuevo capítulo esté lleno de salud, oportunidades y progreso compartido para cada familia, en cada distrito. Avancemos juntos, con esperanza y determinación, hacia un futuro más brillante y próspero para nuestro amado Belice.

Les deseo, de todo corazón, un Feliz y Próspero Año Nuevo.

Que Dios bendiga a Belice.

To every Belizean, I offer my very best wishes for a New Year filled with the treasures of health, peace and success.

May the Almighty continue to bless us all and bless Belize.

2025 PLANBELIZE 2.0 YEAR IN REVIEW

Continued from page 4

hard every day to keep our party strong, to serve this party and to keep working for the development of our country. I promise to lead this great party into the future with confidence and with hope."

March 12, 2025 – BLOWOUT, The PUP was victorious with a super majority. The victory call of "Vamos Bien" echoed.

PlanBelize 2.0 The Work Resumes, the new Cabinet held its first meeting with the CEOs in tow in full throttle to execute the mandates of PlanBelize 2.0.

March 21, 2025 - The GOB and the Ministry of Health and Wellness launched the Belize Health **Sector Strategic Plan 2025-2034** which was considered a reset in Belize's healthcare system. Minister of Health and Wellness.

March 26, 2025 - At the United Nations Country Team Retreat (UNCT) the PM expressed "…this mandate also increases the expectation of Belizeans and we cannot betray that awesome trust Belizeans have placed in our hands."

April 1, 2025 - From Blue Bond in 2020 to the Blue Forum: Knowledge, Innovation, and Action for Belize's Ocean and Thriving Blue Economy in April 2025.

April 1-4, 2025- A team for the Caribbean Development Bank was on a four-day mission in Belize to review and advance its portfolio projects. March 31 to April 4, 2025 - A joint in-country mission was also held by the IDB and IFAD for the "Program for Sustainable and Inclusive Belize".

April 20, 2025 - BUSTLING EASTER: Belizeans across the country experienced the Easter fervour boosted by a bustling economy filled with the usual Easter traditions. Easter Egg Hunt, hot cross buns to the eagerly awaited annual Holy Saturday Cross Country Cycling Classic. Touristic travel saw an increase in airline travel from International visitors bumped up by the Belizean diaspora visiting Belize for Easter. "BELIZE: THE PLACE TO BE"

May 4, 2025-The U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio made a call to the Prime Minister, John Briceño, to congratulate him on the March 12th election victory. also highlighted, the importance of the U.S.-Belize partnership recognizing Belize's significant efforts to counter illegal immigration, support of the Haitian security efforts, support for Taiwan and combat transnational organized crime. The discussion included the issue of tariffs and the ICJ and Guatemala regarding the Sarstoon.

May 11, 2025- HABEMUS PAPAM - For the first time in the history of the Roman Catholic Church, an American Pope was chosen as the Supreme Pontiff. Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost was elected as the 267th Pope.

May 18,2025- FROM PROMISE TO PERFORMANCE: PM Delivers Budget Built on Hard Work, Success & Vision

On May 12th, 2025, PM John Briceño presented the Budget 2025/2026 'From Promise To Performance'. PM Briceño remarked "I wish to salute, …, the exemplary work of our public officers and teachers, of our private sector partners, of those in the NGO community and our external bilateral and multilateral partners, all of whom deserve a fair share of praise for Belize's spectacular revival."

May 19, 2025- PACT INVESTS BZ$7.75 Million- Bolsters Belize's National Protected Areas System. Prime Minister, Briceño "Investing in conservation is not a luxury."

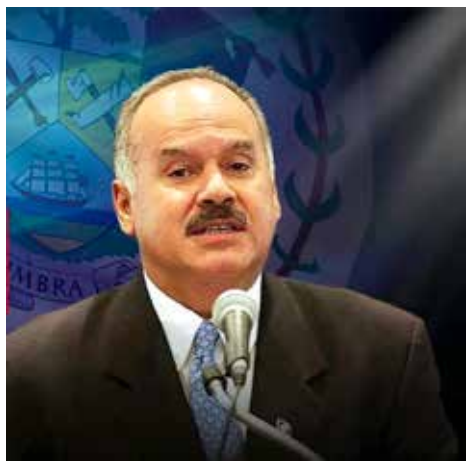
Continued on page 9

Welcoming the New Year with Purpose
"Our mandate is rooted in compassion and action, ensuring dignity, safety, and opportunity for women, children, and families across Belize."
-Hon. Thea Garcia- Ramirez
As we step into the New Year, the Ministry of Human Development, Family Support and Gender Affairs remains committed to people, protection, and progress.
Together, we will continue strengthening families, advancing gender equality, and ensuring no one is left behind.
Ministry of Human Development, Family Support, and Gender Affairs

2025 PLANBELIZE 2.0 YEAR IN REVIEW

Continued from page 8

June 2025- LOUDLY & CLEARLY, VILLAGES VOTE:, there is Great Confidence in the PUP



June 6, 2025 - RALPH FONSECA A Colossus, An Indomitable Force in Belize's Politics passes at 75. The Belize Times edition No 5459 paid tribute to the passing of Ralph Fonseca

June 29, 2025-OSH FOR US, Modern and Comprehensive New Bill to be Tabled, 175 Thousand Workers to Benefit.

July 6 - Belize Wins Again! – Solidarity Forever Backwards Never! "Rural communities are seeing never-before levels of Infrastructural development and upgrades in water and electrification. Additionally, Internet connection, free education and feeding, women empowerment trainings, small business support, upgrade to health facilities, and expansion to NHI, and more."

July 20 - Two Back-2-School GST FREE Weekends; "In partial fulfillment of Plan Belize 2.0,"

July 27 - Belize Glides Forward as The Economic Hub; Belize, Mexico, and Guatemala Integration

August 3 - Protecting Our Children Now – PlanBelize 2.0; A National Call to Action The Ministry, NCFC, and NWC have outlined several immediate priorities.

August 10 - Belize Shines in Asia; "One Belize, One Purpose: Ecosystems for Life", "Belize is honored to stand among the nations of the world at Expo 2025 Osaka"

Continued on page 11

Wishing all Belizeans at home and abroad

A

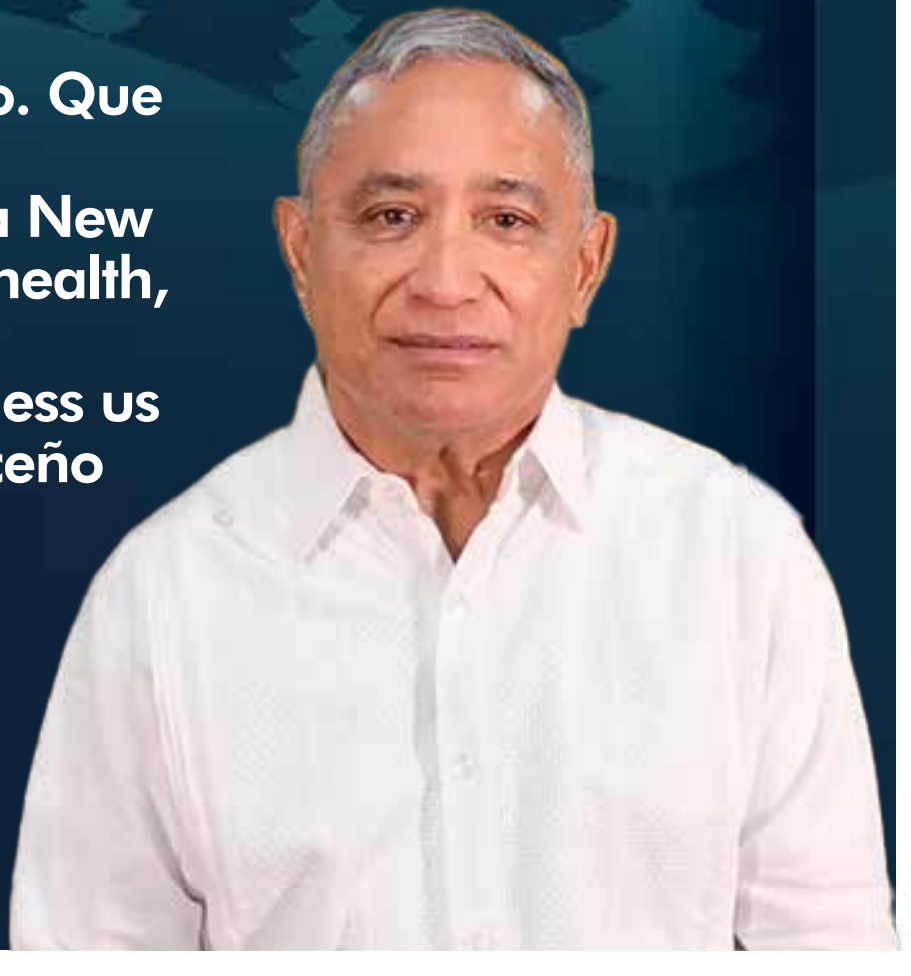
HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS

2026

From

PM Briceño, Deputy PM Hyde, Chairman Usher, Deputy Regional Leaders, Caucus Chairs, the rest of the PUP National Executive and the rest of the PUP Family.

"Un Feliz y Próspero Año Nuevo. Que Dios bendiga a Belice.
I offer my very best wishes for a New Year filled with the treasures of health, peace and success.
May the Almighty continue to bless us all and bless Belize" – PM Briceño



PUP
PEOPLE'S UNITED PARTY

2025 PLANBELIZE 2.0 YEAR IN REVIEW

Continued from page 9

August 17 - BPO TO GLOBAL DIGITAL, PlanBelize 2.0 Protecting the Belizean Workforce Funded by IDB for the transition of the BPO into the Global Digital Service (GDS) industry."

August 24 - CALAKMUL DECLARATION; Belize – Mexico – Guatemala on Common Ground "Signing to create the Great Mayan Forest Bio-cultural Corridor, the largest of its kind in the world."

August 31 - INNOVATIVELY TRANSFORMING EDUCATION; More Students Have Access "Backed by the Government of Belize, which funds 633 schools and pays full salaries and benefits for more than 5,000 teachers, MoECST continues to reshape how Belizean learns. $14 million in grants and scholarships, 15,000 NHSFP meals a day, $1 million in transportation subsidies, and over three-quarters of schools connected to high-speed internet, and more …."

September 7 - INVESTMENT WORLD CONVENES IN SAN PEDRO
BIS: Bridging Markets, Building Resilience
September 14 - BELIZE INVESTMENT SUMMIT 2025 YIELDS $1.5 Billion in Investments: Two Major projects arise at BIS 1st Ever Sugar Refinery | Port of Belize Cruise & Cargo Project

September 21 - TRIBUTE TO BELIZEAN PATRIOTS; Honouring Patriots Who Built Belize

September 28 - SERVING THE PEOPLE, Continuing the Revolution: The People's United Party Celebrates 75 Years of Building a Nation "As good Belizean citizens who love our country and who try to live in peace and friendship with all peoples, let us do our duty to Belize and to its people." Premier, George C. Price - Children's Rally 1968

October 5 - Our PUP@75; Historic Concert, Exhibition, & National Party Council
"That this 75th Anniversary is not merely a reflection on a glorious past, but a clarion call to action for the future. We march forward, guided by the light of our principles, to meet the challenges and opportunities of the next 75 years, ever faithful to our motto: "Serve the People." 4th Point Resolution 2025

October 12 - EMPOWERING ENTREPRENEURS, TAX PENALTY WAIVER & 1 YEAR EXEMPTION TO MSMES "Formalization is essential to growth. When you register your business, you protect your name, access financing, and build credibility."

October 19 - FI WE BOLEDO, Tradition at Our Fingertips; "launching a new product; we are launching a new era – an era of convenience, innovation, and modern gaming for the people." Mrs Narda Garcia, CEO of the OPM

October 26 - BELIZE WATER WINS AGAIN; 34th Water Conference Hosted in San Pedro

November 2 - COLLET RISING THROUGH UNITY AND ACTION
427 New Land Approvals

November 9 - The second annual MILLION DALLA JACKPOT Announced

November 16 - FIFTH ANNIVERSARY, Everyone's PlanBelize Win
11/11/20 celebrated for a surge in Education, Jobs, Land, and Housing "Everywhere we look these days, whether on social media or television, there seemingly is chaos and conflict in the world. Our story has always been different - peaceful, resilient, and continuously rising to that place of greater prosperity. As pupils of George Price, service to the people should always be our high purpose as elected officials. With the blessings of the Almighty, let us persevere in our forward march." - Excerpts, PM John Briceño Address to the Nation

November 23 - HIGHLIGHTING THE FUTURE, Youth Parliamentarians on Point
Children's Day is Happy and Meaningful as our Future Leaders Voice Ideas to the Country

November 30 - A REGIONAL HUB; Powered By Belizeans & PlanBelize
A Boom in Belize's Economy: The Manna Flour Mill and Caribbean Sugar Refinery Advancing the Productive Sector, and Other New Manufacturing Industries;

December 7 - GST-FREE IS BACK; Dec 6-7 & 20-21
Belizeans Purchasing Power on Full Display; This aggressive strategy is to help alleviate the cost-of-living by waiving the 12.5% General Sales Tax on local retail sales of all standard-rated goods.

December 14 - NO MORE LINES, Digital Efficiency & Transparency in New Birth/Death/Marriage/Deed Poll Certificates Online Platform; "Certificates are not just pieces of paper; they are documents that define who we are and unlock access to education, banking, landownership, healthcare, and vital social services. They are the foundation of identity." PM Briceño

December 21 - NEW SWING BRIDGE - Signing Ceremony: Reconstruction Of The Old Swing Bridge; "Belize City is the country's main commercial center. As a critical point in the city's trans- port network, this replacement bridge puts climate adaptation and accessibility at the forefront, reducing risk, improving reliability, and supporting the continued economic activity in Belize City." – PM Briceño

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT)

ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST

Institution: Ministry of Finance
Country: Belize
Project: Belize Reliant and Resilient Energy System Project
Process ID: BZ-CEU-458623-CS-INDV-2
Duration: Two (2) years
Duty Station: Ministry of Finance, Belmopan (In Office)
Deadline: January 16, 2026; 9:30 a.m. (Local Belize Time) (EXTENSION)

The Government of Belize has received loan financing from the World Bank for the execution of the Project**: "**Belize Reliant and Resilient Energy System Project".

The Ministry of Finance, through its Central Executing Unit, intends to allocate a portion of the project's proceeds to engage the contractual services of an **"Environmental Specialist".**

The Ministry of Finance invites individuals to access the full version of this Request for Application and Terms of Reference (TOR) at https://procurement.gov.bz/mof-belize-reliant-and-resilient-energy-system-project-environmental-specialist-individual-consultant-0032-mof2025/ and to submit application packages in accordance with the instructions provided in the full version.

ATTN:
Sandeep Betancourt
Procurement Specialist
Ministry of Finance
2nd Floor, Sir Edney Cain Building, Belmopan
Tel: 501-822-4106'
procurement@ceu.mof.gov.bz

Ref: Individual Consultancy – "Environmental Specialist-BRRES" – Name of consultant.

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT)

SOCIAL SPECIALIST

Institution: Ministry of Finance
Country: Belize
Project: Belize Reliant and Resilient Energy System Project
Process ID: BZ-MFEDI-521161-CS-INDV
Duration: Two (2) years
Duty Station: Ministry of Finance, Belmopan, Belize (In Office)
Deadline: January 26, 2026; 10:00 a.m. (Local Belize Time)

The Government of Belize has received loan financing from the World Bank for the **"**Belize Reliant and Resilient Energy System Project", being implemented by the Ministry of Finance.

The Ministry of Finance, through its Central Executing Unit, intends to allocate a portion of the project's proceeds to engage the contractual services of a **"Social Specialist".**

The Ministry of Finance invites individuals to access the full version of this Request for Application and Terms of Reference (TOR) at https://procurement.gov.bz/mof-brres-social-specialist-individual-consultant-0038-mof-2025/ or by scanning the QR code below, and to submit application packages in accordance with the instructions provided in the full version.

ATTN:
Sandeep Betancourt
Procurement Specialist
Ministry of Finance
2nd Floor, Sir Edney Cain Building, Belmopan
Tel: 501-822-4106'
procurement@ceu.mof.gov.bz

CHRISTMAS 2025

Prime Minister Briceño, OW Central

At Constituency Party

BWS Staff Party

Centaur's Christmas Parade

Hon. Mai, OW South

Santa Invites everyone to Celebrate

Hon. Usher, Fort George

Children's Party

Hon. Habet, Cayo Northeast

El Cayo, Boardwalk Lit Up

Hon. Chebat, Cayo North

Children's Party

Hon. Fonseca, Freetown

Children's Party

Hon. Balona, Cayo Central

Toy Drive

Belmopan City Council

Staff Party

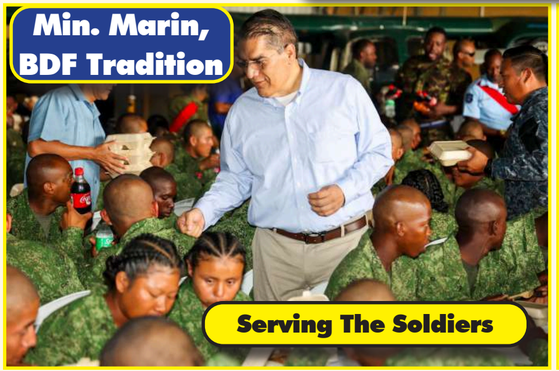
Hon. Bernard, OW East

Children's Party

Brokdong Bram 2025 at Battlefield Park

Councillor Kaya Cattouse

Children's Party in Alberts


Min. Marin, BDF Tradition

Serving The Soldiers

Punta Gorda TC

Spectacular Boat Parade

Hon. Cervantes, OW North

Children's Party

Czl Belize Youth Movement

Giving is the best way to celebrate

Hon. Thea, Corozal Bay

Christmas is for the Children

Corozal TC

Christmas Parade

Hon. Musa, Caribbean Shores

Constituency Party

right on track
'Vamos Bien into 2026'
vamos bien

Curbing the Cost of Living

#planBelize 2.0

Progress for All Belizeans

- ✓ MSME Tax Amnesty
- ✓ BPO move to Global Digital
- ✓ $5 Minimum Wage soon up to $6
- ✓ 8.5 per cent raise for teachers and public servants
- ✓ Raise in Subsidy for UB
- ✓ Financial Aid to hundreds of Students
- ✓ Free Education at 23 Schools/12,00 plus Students:
  Tuition, Books, Device, Uniform, Meals, Transport
- ✓ Raising Income Tax Threshold for thousands
- ✓ Price Barrack Commissary for Police, BDF, & Coast Guard
- ✓ Healthy Start Meals reach 15,000 Students Daily
- ✓ Back to School – GST-free Weekends
- ✓ Christmas – GST-free Weekends
- ✓ Expanded the list of controlled goods
- ✓ Enforcement of price gouging laws
- ✓ Issuing tickets to businesses that violate the rules
- ✓ Exemption from GST and Customs Duties on Feminine hygiene products
- ✓ Passing on Savings on Butane
- ✓ GoB Stabilize Cost of Regular and Diesel Fuels
- ✓ Public Hospitals are FEE Free
- ✓ NHI Health Care Access
- ✓ People's Boledo proceeds for Health care & Sports
- ✓ Access to Housing and Land decreases the need for rent
- ✓ NO new taxes
- ✓ Buy Belize policy benefitting local

MORE OF PLAN BELIZE 2.0

Diversification of Crops
Debt-to-GDP Shrinking
Stable MacroEconomy
Fortification of Green/Blue/Orange Economies
Changing Laws for MSME development
Confidence ensures Record Foreign Direct Investment
Internationally Renowned Blue Bond
Western Hemisphere Leader in GDP growth
Tourism record numbers – Overnight and Flight
Innovative New Enterprises
Respected by the world

Request for Bids
Goods
(One-Envelope Bidding Process)

Country: Belize
Name of Project: Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project
Contract Title: Supply and Delivery of Biological Controls for Sugar Industry Research and Development Institute (SIRDI).
Loan No./Credit No./ Grant No.: P172592
RFB Reference No.: *BZ-SIF-513417-GO-RFB-2*

1. *The Government of Belize has received* financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the *Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project* and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for *Supply and Delivery of Biological Controls for Sugar Industry Research and Development Institute (SIRDI).*

2. The *Belize Social Investment Fund* now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for *the procurement of goods for Supply and Delivery of Biological Controls for Sugar Industry Research and Development Institute (SIRDI).*

3. Bidding will be conducted through international competitive procurement using a Request for Bids (RFB) as specified in the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" *November, 2020* ("Procurement Regulations") and is open to all eligible Bidders as defined in the Procurement Regulations.

4. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from *Belize Social Investment Fund, Ms. Jahnina Reyes, Sr. Procurement Officer* procurement.cresap@sifbelize.org and inspect the bidding document during office hours *8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.* at the address given below.

5. The bidding document in *English* may be requested by interested Bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below.

6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before *10:30 a.m. Belize Local time on January 19th, 2026*. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend at the address below.

7. All Bids must be accompanied by a "*Bid Security*" of

Lot 1- BZ-SIF-513417-01- Metaveria- USD$6,187.00

Lot 2- BZ-SIF-513417-02- Metarhizium anisopliae- USD$6,075.00

Lot 3- BZ-SIF-513417-03-Trichoderma, Bacillus, Streptomyces- USD$18,750.00

Lot 4- BZ-SIF-513417-04- Adjuvant (Inex-A) or equivalent- USD$7,500.00

Lot 5- BZ-SIF-513417-05- Rootex (Rooting Hormone) or equivalent- USD$9,000.00

Lot 6-BZ-SIF-513417-06- H-85 (Soil amendments)or equivalent- USD$6,510.00.

8. Attention is drawn to the Procurement Regulations requiring the Borrower to disclose information on th successful bidder's beneficial ownership, as part of the Contract Award Notice, using the Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Form as included in the bidding document.

9. The address referred to above is:

Belize Social Investment Fund
Ms. Jahnina Reyes, Sr.Procurement Officer
P.O. Box 459, 2nd Floor Building C, 4253 Hummingbird Highway,
City of Belmopan, Belize C.A.
Tel: +501-822-0239
procurement.cresap@sifbelize.org

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST CONSULTING SERVICES

Country:	Belize
Project:	Water and Sanitation Program for Rural Areas
Loan/Credit/Grant No.:	BL-L1045 (5753/OC-BL)
Institution:	Belize Social Investment Fund
Abstract:	National consultancy to conduct the supervision of rehabilitation works at the village level
Contract/Bid No.:	BL-L1045-P00006
Deadline:	January 8, 2026

The Government of Belize (GOBZ) has received financing from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), towards the cost of the Water and Sanitation Program for Rural Areas and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services ("the Services") for National consultancy to conduct the supervision of rehabilitation works at the village level is to supervise the rehabilitation works under the Water and Sanitation Program. The firm will ensure that all activities are carried out in compliance with the approved designs, technical specifications, and standards, while maintaining quality, safety, and adherence to timelines. These works include compound rehabilitation, upgrade of water system equipment, refurbishment of storage reservoirs, and upgrades to pump houses and electrical systems to ensure compliance with current standards.

Scope of Services

1. Technical Inspection of Construction Works Services;
2. Undertake monitoring based on the project's ESMP with guidance from the Social and Environmental Management Officer;
3. Consult and advise the BSIF during the construction Works/ Goods delivery period(s);
4. Submit one (1) electronic copy in Microsoft Word format and one (1) electronic copy in PDF format of monthly progress reports.
5. Review and approve all shop and working drawings prepared by the Works Contractor and suppliers to ensure full compliance of such drawings with the requirements of the Consultant's designs, plans, and specifications;
6. Advise on the suitability of Sub-contractors;
7. Review and approve invoices submitted by the Works Contractor for payment of Works completed, and prepare payment certificates, and ensure that advanced payments issued to the Contractor are utilized for the intended purpose;
8. Hold monthly progress meetings with BSIF staff, Works Contractor, and beneficiaries so as to discuss and address matters pertaining to each sub-project's Works progress;
9. Liaise with the BSIF and relevant authorities, and offer assistance so as to expedite the acceptance and takeover of the Works;
10. Make a final inspection of the completed construction Works; recommend the issuing or non-issuing of the Completion Certificate within 14 days of the Works Contractor's request for issuance; and prepare a Completion Report to the BSIF within 30 days of the end of the Works by the Works Contractor;

The BSIF now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

From the expressions of interest received, the Executing Agency will prepare a short list comprising not fewer than five (5) and not more than eight (8) eligible firms.

Consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Inter-American Development Bank: Policies for the Selection and Contracting of Consultants financed by the Inter-American Development Bank GN-2350-15 section 3.8 – Selection based on the Consultants' Qualification and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the IDB policies.

Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture to enhance their qualifications. For the purpose of establishing the short list, the nationality of a firm is that of the country in which it is legally incorporated or constituted and in the case of Joint Venture, the nationality of the firm appointed to represent it.

In the assessment of submissions, consideration will be given to consulting firms' technical competence, qualifications and experience in relation to providing detailed supervision services on rehabilitation projects, as well as local and regional experience, financial capability (liquidity ratio) and existing commitments. Technical competence of Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the QCBS method set out in the Consultant Policies. Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday (Local Belize Time), except on Public Holidays.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by January 8, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. The submission should include the name and address of the applicant and shall be clearly marked "Expression of Interest – Consultancy to conduct the supervision of rehabilitation works at the village level."

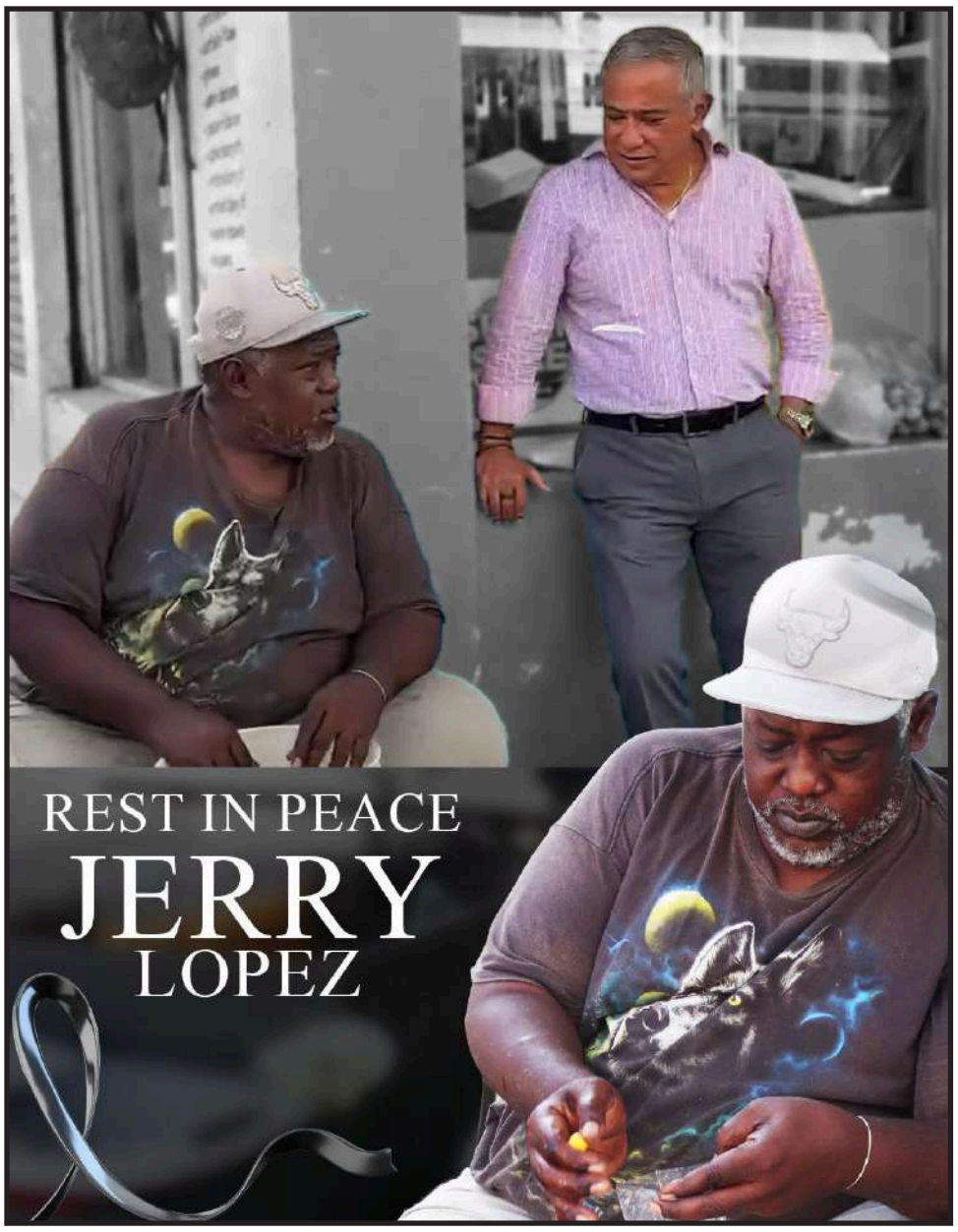
Attention:
Procurement Officer
Belize Social Investment Fund
Building C, 4253 Hummingbird Highway
Belmopan, Belize
Telephone: 822-0239 or 822-0508/9
E-mail: kyla.cho@sifbelize.org
C: carlos.tun@sifbelize.org

POLITICAL TRAILBLAZERS, MOTIVATION FOR YOUNG LEADERS IN BELIZE RURAL NORTH (BRN) AND THE WIDER BELIZE

By Hon. Gilroy Usher, Port Loyola Area Representative

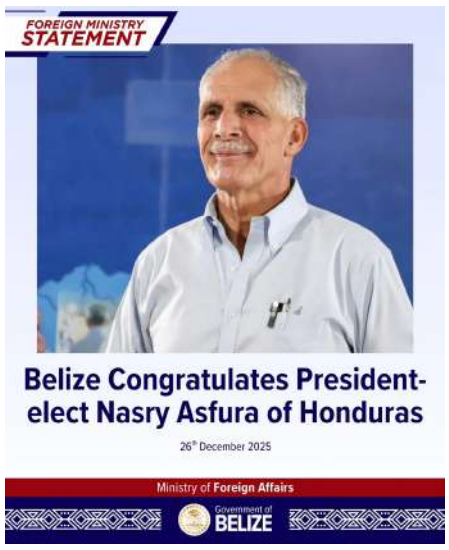
1) Hon. Gilroy Usher. (PUP) 2nd term Area Representative Port Loyola Belize City, originally from Bermudian Landing and first person from BRN to represent a division in Belize City. 2020-2025 and 2025-present.
2) Hon. Marconi Leal, Sr. (PUP) First person from his home village of Sand Hill to represent BRN - One term 2020-2025
3) Hon. Marconi Leal, Jr. (PUP) - Succeeds his father. 2nd person from his home village of Sand Hill to representBRN. 1st term. 2025
4) Hon. Edmond Castro (UDP) - First person from his home village of Maskall to represent BRN. 3 terms. 2008, 2012, and 2015.
5) Hon. Maxwell Samuels (deceased) (PUP) Home - Burrell Boom. 2nd person outside of BRN to represent the division. 3 terms 1993, 1998 and 2003.
6) Hon. Samuel Rhaburn (deceased) (UDP) - First person from his home village of Crooked Tree to represent BRN - 2 terms 1984 and 1989
7) Hon. Fred Hunter (deceased) (PUP) from Belize City. First person to represent BRN, first representative from outside of BRN to represent the area, and longest serving Area Representative for the division. 5 terms. 1961, 1965, 1969, 1974, and 1979. Hon. Fred Hunter's only electoral loss as a PUP candidate occurred in 1984 when he was defeated in BRN by UDP Samuel Rhaburn. He experienced his second loss in BRN as an independent candidate in 2012.

Happy and prosperous New Year 2026 to everyone.



BELIZE FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT

FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT
Belize Condemns Continued Military Intimidation Against Republic of China (Taiwan)
29th December 2025
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Government of BELIZE


FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT
Belize Congratulates President-elect Nasry Asfura of Honduras
26th December 2025
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Government of BELIZE

Belize condemns the continued military intimidation by the People's Republic of China against the Republic of China (Taiwan). Such actions undermine peace, stability, and dialogue across the Taiwan Strait.

Belize reaffirms its strong support for Taiwan and for the peaceful resolution of differences in accordance with international law. @belizeintaiwan

BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM
PUBLIC AUCTION SALE: PROPERTY
Trial Farm, Orange Walk District

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. Development Finance Corporation, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following property. **Sale currently running and will expire fortnightly on the date and time listed on the website until this property is sold.**

1. **Parcel No. 1013 Pucte Villas, Trial Farm Village, Orange Walk District:**

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Ann Gabourel	4	1013
The freehold property of Ms. Nellie Felipa Briceno & Jairo Zadir Campos (Jointly) surety for Jairo Zadir Campos.		

"FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"
TERMS: STRICTLYCASH
KEVIN A. CASTILLO
TELEPHONE 223-4488
Website: belizepropertyauctions.com
E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com
Facebook: Belize Auctions

DFC FINANCING AVAILABLE ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS

Deferment of the Application of Trade License Act No. 19 Of 2024

Belmopan, December 23, 2025.

The public, in particular members of the business community, is hereby advised that the Trade License Act, No. 19 of 2024, has not yet come into force. Under this Act, a new trade licensing regime is to be established in urban areas and, for the first time, in rural areas.

As the new Act has not come into force for the trade licensing year 2026, ONLY businesses in towns and cities across Belize are eligible for the assessment of a trade license fee.

Businesses in rural areas, including Caye Caulker, are therefore advised that, until the new law comes into force, no trade license fee is payable.

Those businesses in the rural areas, including Caye Caulker, are further advised that application fees paid in anticipation of the roll-out of the new law for 2026 shall remain credited to those applicants.

This deferment of the application of the new Act has become necessary for the Government to satisfy and complete all parliamentary obligations before the new Act can come into force. As such, the Trade License Act, Chapter 66 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020, remains the applicable legislation for trade licensing in Belize.

Affected business applicants, particularly from the rural sector, may contact the Ministry of Rural Transformation for further information via telephone number 670-2643 or by email at clifford.king@mrt.gov.bz.

Take 6 simple actions to
#KeepFluAway
Get your flu shot
Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue and dispose properly
Wash your hands
Stay home if feeling unwell
Avoid close contact with a sick person
Avoid touching your eyes, nose, mouth
World Health Organization
Western Pacific Region

DECEMBER, SANTA, AND THE CANE FIELDS

By Ricardo Moguel

Santa Claus did not arrive in Belize by myth or sleigh, nor did he descend fully formed from northern chimneys. He arrived the way most imported ideas did, by timetable and by ship, through colonial mission classrooms where bells governed thought, through radio broadcasts crackling across borders, through the quiet authority of imported calendars. He came folded inside colonial time, dressed in borrowed winter, carrying meanings that were never entirely his own.

As historian Gerry Bowler reminds us, Santa Claus: A Biography (2005), Santa Claus is not a singular invention but an accumulation, a figure layered over centuries of belief, reform, commerce, and longing, reshaped repeatedly to organize generosity, morality, and expectation. In Belize, that accumulation took place under colonial conditions, where time itself was reordered to suit empire and festivals were made to travel with power beneath skies that never froze, where time itself had already learned older names. These layers did not erase older rhythms; they settled among them, unevenly, like foreign stone laid upon living ground.

December here never meant silence under snow. It meant cane fires burning at the edge of vision, sea wind moving inland, drums remembering calendars older than empire, kitchens alive with labor. At dusk, the horizon glowed like slow embers as harvest smoke folded into the sky. The season was not measured by cold or quiet, but by ash settling on thatch and zinc roofs, on laundry lines, on skin and breath, by the smell of molasses and smoke carried on the trade wind. We had no snow, no white hush falling from the heavens, but we had sand beneath our feet and snow of another kind: fine gray ash drifting from the cane fields, dusting the land with the residue of work. The land spoke through fire, not frost, announcing Christmas in its own grammar.

Christmas arrived not wrapped in winter, but in heat, movement, and labor briefly paused. It came with wages paid late and school terms ending, and migration stories returned home like spirits who never stayed long. Radios played carols out of tune with the climate, voices singing of cold nights and northern stars beneath sweating roofs. Even Santa learned to sweat. He entered homes where abundance was brief and carefully counted, where gifts were measured against wages and hours lost in the fields, where magic, if it existed, was understood to be the product of sacrifice made by human hands.

This was a season negotiated rather than given. Joy and endurance shared the same table. Santa Claus became less a saint than a signal, a marker that the year was turning, that scarcity and abundance were once again testing their fragile truce. Children learned to recognize him not as

Continues on Pg 20

in loving memory of

Mrs. Laura Elena Alvarado

"Miss Cano"

With great love and respect, we announce the passing of Mrs. Laura Elena Alvarado, *who peacefully departed to the presence of God.*

A devoted educator, she lovingly served as a teacher at Mount Carmel School in Benque Viejo and at Joseph Primary School in Belize City, leaving a lasting impact on generations of students.

PORT of BELIZE LTD
A Port with a Global Perspective

PUBLIC NOTICE

EXTENSION EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

Port of Belize Limited invites:

Qualified and experienced consulting firms or individual consultants to submit Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the provision of consultancy services.

Consultancy Services: *Review of Port Labor Force, Workforce Structure, Salary Scale and Job Classification.*

Submission deadline is on or before:

January 30, 2026

Late submissions will not be accepted.

Interested parties kindly contact the Procurement Department to request a copy of tender documents

Email: procurement@portofbelize.com

Tel: 223-2439 or 280-2439

Port of Belize Limited reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

BDF CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

December 18 - Prime Minister Hon. John Briceño; the Deputy Governor-General, Ambassador Stuart Leslie, Hon. Florencio Marin Jr., the Minister of National Defence and Border Security; and other members of the Government of Belize joined the senior command of the Belize Defence Force in celebrating the nation's military men and women at their Christmas luncheon.

This event is an annual tradition in which the rank and file of the BDF are served by their military and civilian leaders in honor of their hard work and dedication to the protection of Belize's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

As part of this year's event, the Prime Minister handed over a new ambulance to the BDF to assist in medical emergencies.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone from the BDF and Hon. Florencio Marin,

PORT of BELIZE LTD
A Port with a Global Perspective

PUBLIC NOTICE

EXTENSION INVITATION TO BID

Port of Belize limited invites the following:
Sealed bids for the supply of **(1) Pilot Launch** to support operations.

All bids must be sealed, clearly marked **"tender-Pilot Launch"**

DEADLINE EXTENSION:
January 30, 2026
Late submissions will not be accepted.

Tender documents are available from the Procurement Department:

Email: procurement@portofbelize.com

Tel: 223-2439 or 280-2439

Port of Belize Limited reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

DECEMBER, SANTA, AND THE CANE FIELDS

Continues from Pg 18

a theological figure, but as translation, a visitor from elsewhere rendered legible through shop windows, radio jingles, and the promise of things briefly attainable.

Bowler argues that Santa Claus endures not because of deception, but because societies require ritualized generosity, a sanctioned moment when giving is expected, innocence rehearsed, and moral order briefly restored. Yet, this insight sharpens in a place like Belize. Here, generosity did not need invention. It already lived in communal survival: in shared meals, extended kinship, Mayan milpa cycles, Creole yard culture, Garifuna dugu, in the quiet understanding that no one endures alone. Santa did not teach giving in Belize; he standardized it, scheduled it, and removed it from everyday obligation.

Colonial Christmas attempted to overwrite older calendars, imposing a winter festival onto a tropical ecology, a northern imagination onto southern time. Bells rang, storefronts glowed, but the land continued to follow older rhythms. The Maya year did not pivot on December twenty-fifth, but on planting and harvest, rain and drought, renewal and return. The haab' and the tzolk'in required no red suit to announce continuity; they measured life by balance rather than excess. Time itself resisted, bending the imported festival until it fit the soil.

And so Santa persists in Belize not as an authority nor a conqueror of belief, but as a guest, adapted, negotiated, sometimes resisted, often reinterpreted. He walks beside older spirits, under ceiba shadows, across cane ash mistaken briefly for snow. Christmas, whatever it may mean to each household, remains a space where history pauses just long enough for people to remember what they value, what they have lost, and what they still dare to hope for.

Christmas here is not surrender; it is translation. On the other side of history, Santa Claus is neither sacred nor fraudulent. He is evidence, of how cultures absorb without surrendering, how imported symbols bend under local memory, how even ash can pass for snow when the land insists on speaking in its own voice, when memory insists on its own vocabulary.

The red suit fades. The calendar turns. The people remain.

A Happy New Year 2026 to everyone!

LETTER TO THE Editor

A Resolution Worth Keeping

Dear Editor,

As the New Year begins, many of us will make resolutions with genuine hope and determination. We promise to save more, live healthier, be kinder, work harder, or spend more time with family. Yet, by February, many of those promises quietly fade. The problem is not that resolutions are useless—it is that we often fail to commit to them beyond the excitement of January 1st.

A New Year's resolution should not be a grand announcement but a personal contract. It requires discipline, patience, and consistency. Real change does not happen overnight; it happens through small, daily choices. Skipping one day does not mean failure, but giving up entirely does.

One way to stick to a resolution is to be realistic. Set goals that are achievable and meaningful. Another is accountability—share your goal with someone who will encourage you, not judge you. Most importantly, remember why you started. Whether it is for your health, your family, your peace of mind, or your future, purpose fuels perseverance.

This year, instead of making multiple resolutions, choose one that truly matters. Work on it quietly, steadily, and honestly. Progress may be slow, but consistency will always outperform motivation.

If we learn to keep our promises to ourselves, we strengthen our character and confidence. A resolution kept is not just a habit formed—it is proof that growth is possible.

Sincerely,
Dorothy P

LETTER TO THE Editor

A Hopeful New Year for Belize

Dear Editor,

As we welcome the New Year, I extend heartfelt wishes of happiness, health, and prosperity to all Belizeans at home and abroad.

A new year brings with it fresh opportunities—an opportunity to reflect on where we have been, to learn from our challenges, and to move forward with renewed purpose. Belize has faced its share of difficulties, but we have also shown time and again that resilience, unity, and community spirit define who we are as a people.

This is a time to set aside division and embrace cooperation. Whether in our homes, workplaces, or communities, small acts of kindness, responsibility, and respect can create meaningful change. Progress is not built by words alone, but by consistent effort and a shared commitment to making our country better for the next generation.

As we step into the New Year, let us carry hope in our hearts and determination in our actions. May we support one another, uplift our youth, care for our elders, and continue to believe in the promise of Belize.

I wish all Belizeans a Happy, peaceful, and successful New Year. May it be filled with opportunity, growth, and blessings for our families and our nation.

Sincerely,
E Ferguson

PORT of BELIZE LTD
A Port with a Global Perspective

PUBLIC NOTICE
EXTENSION INVITATION TO BID

Port of Belize limited invites the following:
Sealed bids for the supply of **(1) lattice boom crane** to support operations.

All bids must be sealed, clearly marked
"tender-lattice boom crane"

DEADLINE EXTENSION:
January 30, 2026
Late submissions will not be accepted.

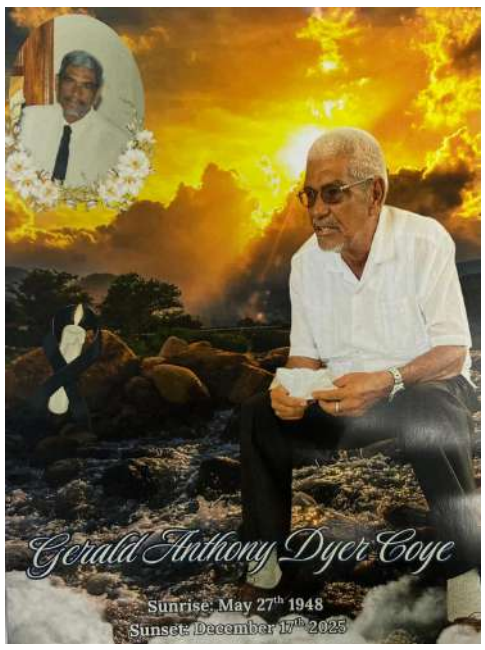
Tender documents are available from the Procurement Department:

Email: procurement@portofbelize.com

Tel: 223-2439 or 280-2439

Port of Belize Limited reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

Eulogy
Gerald Anthony Dyer Coye



We can only estimate how many eulogies Gerald heard in his lifetime but he would say: "In a eulogy, only Good things you hear and not the Bad things but that's alright because who among us haven't done bad things. I not answering to them but to my Maker."

Gerald Anthony Dyer Coye met his maker on December 17th 2025. He was 77 years old.

Gerald was not a "talker" but we will beg his forgiveness for talking about him for a little while. Not about how and when he died. But about how he lived.

Gerald was someone different to so many people. We could be up here for hours if we recounted all the stories from his family, his peers and all the people he impacted throughout his life.

Gerald was a beloved son of Elswith and Felipe Coye. And he loved them both dearly and fiercely. Throughout his life, his actions did his talking. When his idol Mr. Felipe took ill and was admitted to the Old Belize City Hospital, it was the brothers Richard, David, Phillip and Gerald who took shifts to make sure he was never alone for all those weeks. Their dedication left an impression even on the hospital staff.

Their blended family was not perfect but the love between Suelo's children: Robbie, Gerald, Glen, Phillip, Allan, David, Richard, Thora and Myrtle has endured. Keeping in contact with them was a priority for Gerald. He may not have said I love you but he took action to make sure he knew everyone was ok. All those shared dreams and experiences now treasured memories.

Gerald's dream after primary school was to own a car, he couldn't wait to learn to drive. For a time, he worked in the family business as a cabinet maker but didn't stay long cause he wasn't good at it. As Robbie tells it, Gerald put a "wap" on him by offering him to wash his car as he took his eyes off him he went for a spin around Princess Margaret Drive not once, but twice!

Gerald tried his hand at several professions: he worked at the Shell Depot several years and he was a stevedore. He once got a job on a Cargo Ship which had him at sea several weeks. When he found out the next stop was in Florida, he told his roommate well this is my break to see what America had to offer and he jumped ship. He ended up in New York with younger Brother Allan. But after about 2 months and he told Allan, "Boy, I thought Belize had Crazy man but nothing beat America. This is not for me…"and he got on the next plane home.

That was Gerald, living according to his own philosophy. He never liked alcohol, cigarettes and wasn't good in sports. He didn't gamble in cards or dice because if he lost he want to strong back his money. He claimed marijuana as his medicine to avoid doctors and hospitals. And he worked the longest and hardest behind the wheel.

Ban was his first car, and up to the time of his passing he was working as a taximan operating from Cinderella Plaza. In 1986 he joined the family business again, this time driving the firm's first hearse. He knew where all the churches and religious places country wide.

In that work, Gerald was the designated "go to," "The Undertaker". But even more than a title, he carried a serious duty. Gerald had what we can only call a Ministry of Presence, when grief was heavy and words failed, he showed up, handled what needed to be handled, and helped families get through the hardest moments. His actions did the talking: he helped to organize parking and manage traffic, he made sure relatives knew what to do in church, and one family says Gerald even joined the choir once!

Gerald knew the love of a good woman in Susie, but when he met Vicky, he met the love of his life and they created their peace. And we give her our heartfelt thanks to her for being with him right up to the end.

Gerald, you stood with so many of us in our darkest hours, offering comfort and kindness when we needed it most. Now we comfort ourselves with the thought that you are with loved ones, true to form, showing your love by preparing for the rest of us, knowing that we will be together again one day.

Thank you, Gerald, for everything you did for all of us, seen and unseen. Rest in peace.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Job Title: Program Manager
Duration: Twelve (12) months (with option to renew)
Location: Public-Private Dialogue Unit (PPD), Secretariat to the Economic Development Council (EDC) in the Office of the Prime Minister, Belmopan

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 The Public-Private Dialogue Unit (PPD) in the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) was established in 2012 to provide technical support to the Economic Development Council (EDC) in operationalizing its mandate to: (i) Foster an improved business climate by making recommendations to the Prime Minister and relevant government ministries; (ii) Support reforms that lead to an improved business climate; (iii) Strengthen the relationship between the private and public sector through meaningful dialogue; as outlined in the Economic Development Council Act, No. 38 of 2017.

1.2 Since November 2020, the Government of Belize has reiterated a renewed focus on advancing ease of doing business reforms as outlined in #planBelize in support of robust, resilient and sustainable economic growth. The successful implementation of initiatives championed by the EDC requires efficient coordination and project management that is supported by qualified expertise. The PPD, as the Secretariat to the EDC, is staffed by technical officers and a head of department. The PPD takes on a project management approach to its work, ensuring that proper planning, risk management, stakeholder engagement and monitoring and evaluation of activities and stakeholder engagement occur in a systematic manner. The Public-Private Dialogue Unit is hereby seeking to strengthen the work of the EDC's Secretariat by obtaining the services of a Program Manager (Project Coordinator). Important programs of work to be managed are the Belize Investment and Business Climate Action Plan (BIBCAP), MSME support, EDC Strategic activities.

2. OBJECTIVE

The person filling this post will provide expertise in program management and coordination of projects including but not limited to planning, stakeholder engagement, providing policy and other technical advice, conducting risk assessment, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting on work programs, complementing the work of the Executive Director, assuring Project Office productivity, and collaboratively engaging other PPD staff.

3. QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE

The following is the minimum technical expertise required to conduct the assignment:

- A master degree in Project Management (*certification in project management with work experience may be considered*), Business Administration, Economics, Development Studies, Social Sciences or other field relevant to the post.
- At least three years' work experience in the private sector and 3 years of working experience in project management, administration and private sector development. Familiarity with donor-funded development projects, donor liaison, operations / administration, and related functions.

4. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

To request the Terms of Reference for this position, kindly email: admin.officer@opm.gov.bz; Telephone enquiries may be directed to Marta Hendrikx, Telephone +501-828-5262.

Applicants should send an Expression of Interest in letter format and Curriculum Vitae addressed to Ms. Carmencita Sosa, Executive Director - EDC, at executive.director@opm.gov.bz and copy to admin.officer@opm.gov.bz, with "**Public Private Dialogue Unit – Program Manager**" as the subject line of the email. Deadline for receipt of submissions: **5:00 PM on Sunday, January 11, 2026**.

NATIONAL BANK OF BELIZE LIMITED AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

HLB BELIZE AUDIT TAX ADVISORY

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Directors and Shareholder of:
National Bank of Belize Limited

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of National Bank of Belize Limited, which comprise the statements of financial position as at August 31, 2025 and 2024, and the statements of comprehensive income, statements of changes in equity, and statements of cash flows for the years then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of National Bank of Belize Limited as at August 31, 2025 and 2024, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs).

Basis for Opinion
We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of National Bank of Belize Limited (the Bank) in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements
Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with IFRSs, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Bank's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Bank or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Bank's financial reporting process.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error; to design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks; and to obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Bank's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Bank's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Bank to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identified during the audit.

HLB, Belize, LLP

Chartered Accountants
Belize City, Belize
December 29, 2025

NATIONAL BANK OF BELIZE LIMITED

Statements of financial position
As at August 31, 2025 and 2024 (in Belize Dollars)

	Notes	2025	Restated 2024	Restated 2023
Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents - unrestricted	4e. 4f. 7.	**$ 82,523,147**	$ 68,827,889	$ 14,754,059
Cash and cash equivalents - restricted	4e. 4f. 8.	**18,289,574**	13,729,445	7,535,831
Loans to customers	4e. 9.	**106,491,943**	86,448,366	80,442,043
Securities	4e. 10.	**35,000,000**	12,000,000	1,999,800
Other assets	4e. 5. 11.	**1,012,731**	974,853	943,578
Property and equipment	4g. 4h. 4i. 12.	**708,769**	651,636	977,122
Total assets		**244,026,164**	182,632,189	106,652,433
Liabilities				
Customer accounts	4e. 13.	**221,848,312**	167,099,130	88,404,266
Subordinated debt	4e. 14.	**3,000,000**	-	-
Other liabilities	4e. 4j. 15.	**4,086,358**	1,706,494	1,964,504
Total liabilities		**228,934,670**	168,805,624	90,368,770
Net assets		**$ 15,091,494**	$ 13,826,565	$ 16,283,663
Shareholders' equity				
Share capital	16.	**$ 40,025,000**	$ 40,025,000	$ 40,025,000
Statutory reserve	4k.	**316,232**	-	-
Loan loss reserve	5a.	**900,452**	2,015,100	1,486,819
Accumulated deficit		**(26,150,190)**	(28,213,535)	(25,228,156)
Shareholders' equity		**$ 15,091,494**	$ 13,826,565	$ 16,283,663

The financial statements on pages 3 to 6 were approved and authorized for issue by the Board of Directors on December 29, 2025 and are signed on its behalf by:

Director

Director

NATIONAL BANK OF BELIZE LIMITED

Statements of comprehensive income
For the years ended August 31, 2025 and 2024 (in Belize Dollars)

	Notes	2025	Restated 2024
Net interest income	4l. 17.	**$ 5,063,533**	$ 3,746,454
Fee income	4l. 18.	**4,126,482**	1,257,993
Revenue		**9,190,015**	5,004,447
Net remeasurement of expected credit losses - loans to customers	4e. 9.	**(2,055,362)**	(2,086,533)
Net remeasurement of expected credit losses - other assets	4e. 11.	**(58,195)**	8,206
Net remeasurement of expected credit losses - credit-related commitments	4e.	**(6,989)**	223
Depreciation	4g. 12.	**(355,587)**	(311,159)
Personnel expenses	4l. 20.	**(3,134,570)**	(3,116,538)
General and administrative expenses	4l. 21.	**(2,754,323)**	(2,181,511)
Foreign currency translation	4c.	**1,171,665**	532,040
Other income	4l. 19.	**802,090**	447,905
Net profit (loss) before business tax		**2,798,744**	(1,702,920)
Business tax	22.	**(1,533,815)**	(754,178)
Net income (loss) for the year		**1,264,929**	(2,457,098)
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive income (loss)		**$ 1,264,929**	$ (2,457,098)

See Note 26 for the details of restatement

The above financial statements should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

hlb.bz
Partners: Claude Burrell, CA, CISA, CDPSE | Giacomo Sanchez, CA

40 Central American Blvd | Belize City | Belize C.A.
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LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that **824 West Caribbean Investment Ltd.** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"824 West Caribbean Investment Ltd."** located at # 50 C.A. Blvd., Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Jose Sanchez** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"Sanchez Shop"** located in Maskall Village, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Anna Mckay** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at **"Anna's Lunch Box"** located at # 4 Bishop Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Tyone Valdes** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at **"Coco Cart"** located at # 8 Fort Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Errol Garbutt** is applying for a **Night Club Liquor License** to be operated at **"Buccaneer's Tavern Night Club"** located on Old Airport Rd., Ladyville Village, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Mark Paulino/Devon Nembhard/Aubrey Franklin** are applying for a **Night Club Liquor License** to be operated at **"Dreamers Lounge"** located at 13 Mls. P.G.Hwy., Ladyville Village, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Four Season Ltd.** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at **"Caribbean Pier"** located at # 8 Fort Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Four Season Ltd.** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at **"Caribbean Pier"** located at # 8 Fort Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Four Season Ltd.** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at **"D'Bourbon Barrel"** located at # 8 Fort Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Four Season Ltd.** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at **"Lizard Juice Bar"** located at # 8 Fort Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Anna Moore** is applying for a **Malt & Cider Liquor License** to be operated at **"KLK Sport Bar"** located in Gales Point Manatee Village, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Naresh Ramchandani/Simran Ramchandani** are applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"JN Supermarket"** located at # 15 Queen Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Maria Sandra Sorto** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at **"Mini Tienda Ariana"** located at # 4993 Delysia Goff Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Russell L. Moody** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at **"M & M Restaurant & Bar"** located in Sand Hill Village, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Mark A. Nugent** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at **"Tacos Picante de Asada"** located at # 19 C.A. Blvd., Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Isson Charles** is applying for a **Malt & Cider Liquor License** to be operated at **"Tey's Food Spot"** located in Double Head Village, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Basil Destefano** is applying for a **Publican General Liquor License** to be operated at **"Tiburon Rum Shack Bait Co."** located at San Ignacio Welcome Center, S.I. Town, Cayo District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Kamlesh Motwani** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"Soni & Saanvi Super Mart"** located at #21 Flamingo Street, S.I. Town, Cayo District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Rosendo Howe/Maricela Howe** are applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at **"Bar Bliss"** located in Savannah Area, S.I. Town, Cayo District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Lynnett Gabourel** is applying for a **Malt & Cider Liquor License** to be operated at **"K & J Shop"** located in Unitedville Village, Cayo District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Madeline Reynolds** is applying for a **Malt & Cider Liquor License** to be operated at **"Lower Dover Field Station Ltd."** located in Unitedville Village, Cayo District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Winston G. Dawson** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at **"La Pasadita Restaurant & Bar"** located on Loma Luz Blvd., Santa Elena Town, Cayo District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Josue Sosa Mendez** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at **"Little John's Corner"** located at # 24 Landivar St., Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **AiLi Chen** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"Sun Luck Shop"** located on Zericote Street, Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Shuyin Su** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"DK24/7 Service Station"** located at # 126 Belize/Corozal Rd., Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Shao Xia Wu** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at **"Zhi Store"** located on Queen Victoria Ave., Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Wei Min Xie** is applying for a **Night Club Liquor License** to be operated at **"New Happy Days Entertainment"** located on San Antonio Rd., Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Jin Chao Wu** is applying for a **Night Club Liquor License** to be operated at **"D8 Entertainment"** located on Belize/Corozal Rd., Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Wen Chao Li** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"Hong Li Shop"** located on Otro Benque Rd., Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Yan Zhen Yu** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"Jenny Taisan Store"** located on Louisana Farm Rd., Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Guo Cheng Deng** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"Jimmy's Store"** located on Sarstoon St., Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Xiaoyan He** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"Yiyi Store"** located at # 123 Bze/Czl Rd., Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Yuerong Wu** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at **"Orange Wok Restaurant"** located at # 23 Main St., Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Dong Pan Li** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"Ahorra Mas"** located on Cinderella Street, Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **HaiPing Huang** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"H.P. Beijing Store"** located at # 58 San Francisco St., Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **GuoJin Wu** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"128 Shop"** located on San Andres Street, Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Jin Qi Lin** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"Shun Li Shop"** located on Queen Victoria Ave., Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Jin Qi Lin** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"Shun Li Shop"** located on Queen Victoria Ave., Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Jieyi Zhang** is applying for a **Malt & Cider Liquor License** to be operated at **"SK Restaurant"** located on Bze/Czl Rd., Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Yu Zhen Li** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at **"Wendy's Grocery & Fast Food"** located on Otro Benque Rd., Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Xian Gui Li** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"Chen Hardware Store"** located at # 5 Zericote St., Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Huang Dan Gong** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"Ring Store"** located on Liberty Avenue, Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Zhen Yu Huang** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"Sunny's Store"** located on Baker's Street, Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Tony Kwok Ming Lee** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at **"Lee's Chinese Restaurant"** located at # 11 San Antonio Rd., Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Hui Shuang Chen** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"Hui Sheng Shop"** located on San Andres St., Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Esther Ning** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"Sunrise Store"** located on Otro Benque Rd., Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

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